

MINUTES AND REPORT

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MEETING OF COUNCIL

CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

held at 225 Swanston Street, Melbourne on Monday, 18th October 1982, commencing 4 p.m.

1. PRESENT

Mr. J. N. Black	Chairman
Mr. E. T. Long	
Mr. M. Rundle	
Mr. O. J. Slattery	Executive Officer
Mr. W. W. Rawlinson	

Apologies for absence received from

Messrs. A. Dash, A. Gill, B. H. Macintosh, J. Mitchell,
J. Rigby, G. J. Simm.

2. QUORUM

The Chairman ruled a quorum not being present the meeting would form a Committee to submit recommendations to the next full meeting of the Council.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held 20th Sept ember 1982 have been circulated to all Council members. The meeting agreed to recommend their confirmation to the next full meeting of the Council.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.i Minute 3(iii) Directors' Manuals

The meeting noted four possible sponsors of the project and proposed two possible resource organisations

Chartered Institute of Secretaries
Institute of Directors

The meeting recommended

- (i) Check all State Federations to ascertain present situation relating to production and publication of Co-operatives Directors' Manuals throughout Australia.

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(ii) Submit to Co-operative Federation of Australia for consideration of development as national project with State sections.

(iii) Investigations be commenced early in 1983 of the proposed funding organisations to seek a grant of \$20,000 to cover cost of research, production promotion and publication over a six month period.

4.ii

Minute 8 - Legislation

A submission requesting amendments to the Co-operation Act 1981 as agreed at the September 1982 meeting has been made to and received by the Minister's Legislative review Committee.

4.iii

Minute 11 - North Eastern Regional Meeting

8 nominations were received from 5 Co-operatives after 14 phone calls. After discussion with Chairman, the meeting was deferred as directed by the September Council meeting.

5.

STATE BUDGET

5.i(a)

Advisory Council Grant

The Committee noted that despite the recommendation from the Minister for an increase of the grant to \$5,000 the Treasurer has authorised \$2,500 in the budget. An appeal has been made to the Minister for reconsideration. A claim for the \$2,500 has been submitted.

5.i.(b)

Co-operative Development Programme

The Committee noted the Budget approved \$600,000 for the Co-operative Development Programme - the same level as for last financial year. An appeal was submitted to the Minister by the Federation and currently funded Co-operatives in the programme. A further \$250,000 has been made available to the programme for the current financial year.

5.i.(c)

Financial Institutions Duty

The Budget proposes replacement of Stamp Duty on cheques with a duty on receipts. Co-operatives registered under the Co-operation Act 1981 are currently exempt from Stamp Duty on cheques.

An appeal has been made to the Premier and the Executive Officer appeared before a Treasury Board of hearing on the proposal.

5.ii

Co-operative Federation of New South Wales

The Report and accounts for its financial year end 30/6/82 were tabled with an invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting on 25th October 1982.

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6. FINANCIAL

The meeting received a statement of Income - Expenditure for the period 1.7.82 to 30.9.82 and estimated Balance Sheet as at 30th September 1982. The meeting noted that all subscription notices and claims for grants for the current financial year have been issued including applications for a further \$25,000 making \$50,000 of the approved budget of \$71,500 for the Employment Co-operative Development Programme.

7. INCORPORATION OF THE FEDERATION

The meeting noted

(i) authority of the Registrar has been sought in accordance with Section 49(2) of the Co-operation Act 1981 for current Co-operative Company members of the Federation to be certified as being eligible for membership of the incorporated Federation.

(ii) Application for registration of the Federation in accordance with the Regulations has been made.

(iii) The names of "Officers" of member Co-operatives nominated as delegates to the Federation and nominated for directorship of the incorporated Federation have to be submitted to the Registrar for prior approval prior to election as directors.

8. PROMOTIONAL LITERATURE

This item listed on the agenda arising from Minute 5(ii) (ii) of the September 1982 Council was deferred, in the absence of a quorum, for consideration at the next full meeting of the Council.

9. SOURCES OF FINANCE TO FUND THE FEDERATION

In the absence of a quorum and the movers of the motion at Minute 13(i) of the September 1982 Council meeting the meeting deferred consideration of this item to the next full meeting of the Council.

10. REPORTS

10.i Co-operative Societies Advisory Council

Mr. Long reported the Council met on 7th October 1982. A submission to the Minister's Legislative Review Committee on functions of the Council was agreed. Note was taken of the business like way of collection of monies due by Co-operatives defaulting under the guarantee given by the Treasurer. The Federation Committee recommended the Bendigo Trading Co-operative submit an application for a Government Guarantee as a test case of Advisory Council policy on recommendations for guarantees to the Treasurer.

10.ii Employment Co-operatives Development Programme

The Chairman reported on correspondence from and discussions held with the Deputy Director General, Department of Employment and Training on

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- (a) the role of the Co-operative Business Adviser
- (b) economic relationships between established Co-operatives and those funded under the Programme.

Mr. Black advised that agreement had been reached that the Co-operative Business Adviser's responsibilities should include the making of monthly objective assessments on all Co-operatives and potential Co-operatives funded under the Programme to the Council of the Federation and the Ministry.

Discussions will be held by Mr. Greer and Mr. David Griffiths to determine the best way of achieving this objective. Thereafter formal proposals will be submitted by the Department for consideration of the Federation.

The Chairman also advised that Mr. Kirby had confirmed no formal report on relationships between the two areas of Co-operative activity referred to at (b) is immediately required. The Ministry is more concerned with receiving proposals and comments on general progress towards development of closer relationships between established and the newer Co-operatives in their mutual interest. Proposed legislation on establishment of Industrial Co-operatives was quoted as one example of this development of joint action towards a common goal by the Government and the Federation.

The meeting was advised that a meeting of the Funding Committee has been called for 20th October to consider an application for funding by The Bendigo Trading Co-operative. Mr. Long agreed to represent Mr. Rawlinson at that meeting.

Co-operative Federation of Australia

10.iii

Mr. Slattery reported that a joint meeting of representatives of the C.F.A., Credit Unions and Permanent Building Societies was held in Melbourne on 21st September 1982 to consider the establishment of a Co-operative Bank. The Chairman appointed by the C.F.A. was Mr. Clive Little of Deloitte Haskins & Sells.

After each section had outlined its objectives and requirements of a Co-operative Bank and general discussion that meeting recognised there is currently no common objective amongst the three sections. However, there is a need for continued closer liaison between the three arms of the Co-operative movement in Australia.

The Co-operative Federation of Australia will re-assess the situation in the area of increased development of existing systems and pooling of resources.

A further meeting of the three groups as an interchange of information exercise will be held in Melbourne on 10th December 1982, to be convened by Mr. Little.

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The Co-operative Federation of Victoria, sponsors of the Investigation Study fund are to be advised of the present situation and be supplied with copies of the report from the Investigation.

Mr. Black reported that the subject of re-structuring of the Co-operative Federation of Australia, having been accepted in principle by the Council of the Co-operative Federation of New South Wales, is to be considered in the Annual General Meeting of that Federation on 25th October 1982. Thereafter the Council of C.F.A. will plan future action.

10.iv Executive Officer

Mr. Rawlinson reported on visits made to Chairmen and management of 5 member Co-operatives, other meetings attended including discussions with Business Studies Division, Footscray Technical College and Preston College T.A.F.E.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

11.i Coverage of Executive Officer's Duties

Mr. Greer will attend to the Bookkeeping and convening the November Council meeting.

Mr. Rundle will visit the office each Tuesday to liaise with Mrs. Loban.

Mr. Long will be available for advisory assistance to Mrs. Loban. Mr. Long will be the signatory on withdrawals on the C.F.V. account from Security Permanent Building Society.

Mrs. Loban will hold the Post Office Box key and be responsible for management of the Federation office.

11.ii Apology for Absence from November Meeting

Mr. Slattery offered his apology for absence from the November 1982 meeting.

The Committee directed that all Councillors be contacted one week before the next scheduled meeting to ensure a quorum will be available.

12. NEXT MEETING

It was agreed the next meeting would be held on Monday, 15th November 1982
TO COMMENCE AT 4 P.M.

13. CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.45 p.m.

[Signature]
15-11-82